

the economies on reservation lands through the creation and expansion of small businesses by ensuring the target population has full access to important business counseling and technical assistance through the SBDC program.

Any SBDC in a State, whose Indian tribe members, Native Alaskan, and Native Hawaiian populations are one percent of the State's total population, can apply for a grant from the SBA. Such grants must be used to provide SBDC program assistance to Native Americans. Grants under the Act are limited to \$300,000 and the amount authorized to be appropriated annually, in each of the fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006, is \$7 million. No matching funds are required from the States.

Services by SBDCs are to be provided to benefit the target population on tribal lands and reservations, but an individual center need not be located on each tribal land location or reservation. If the target population is in more than one location or reservation within a State, the center should be situated in a location that optimizes access by all those serviced by the center. H.R. 1166 does not limit in any way, the number of centers or subcenters a state program may implement. I expect the SBA Administrator to balance the need for multiple sites with the quality of assistance and counseling when awarding grants. Consultation with the local Tribal Council is required in determining those locations in most need and where the best access may be attained.

SBA is responsible for designing the grant application, which should provide essential information, but should not be burdensome to applicants. At a minimum, the application should contain information concerning the applicant's (1) goals and objectives, (2) prior experience in providing entrepreneurial and technical assistance to small businesses, (3) the ability to provide training and services to Indian tribe members, Native Alaskans, and Native Hawaiians, and (4) the extent of consultation with local Tribal Councils. In addition, the applicant should identify the location of a proposed center, and the amount of funding required.

Within 180 days after the enactment of H.R. 1166, the SBA Administrator is required to issue final regulations, after a notice and comment period, that implement the requirements of the Act. Such regulations shall include standards for the educational, technical, and support services to be provided and for a work plan for providing assistance to the targeted community.

The Act's predecessor, H.R. 2538, was subject to a hearing and a committee mark-up in the 107th Congress. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that implementing the bill would cost \$20 million over the next four years and contains no intergovernmental or private sector mandates. H.R. 2538 also unanimously passed the House on December 5, 2001 but unfortunately saw no action on the Senate floor, even though a companion bill was discussed and marked-up in the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee. That's why I am pleased to join again with my good friend from New Mexico, in co-sponsoring H.R. 1166 in this Congress and seeing it pass the House yet once again. Hopefully, the other body will look more kindly upon the legislation this year.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1166, a bill to en-

hance the capacity of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) to provide assistance to Native American tribal members, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. I would like to commend my colleague and friend, Representative TOM UDALL, for his work on, once again, bringing this important legislation to the floor.

SBDCs are the premier technical assistance providers to America's entrepreneurs. Many small businesses often operate near or at their profit margin and do not have additional resources to hire legal or technical experts. Research shows that small businesses that receive technical assistance are twice as likely to succeed in the marketplace than those that do not. In addition to providing technical assistance to the general small business community, SBDCs should also target that segment of our population with special and unique needs.

The Native American population is one such population. The United States government has an endless commitment to addressing the economic and health disparities of Native Americans. Although we have passed other legislation such as the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975, which both encourage self-sufficiency in an attempt to amend the effects of relocation, not enough has been done to ensure success of economic development within this community. That is why I support this bill. The "Native American Small Business Development Act" (NASBD) will allow Native Americans to strengthen and expand their small business infrastructure. This would also provide more stable employment and move closer to ending the desperate and disparate conditions on reservations. More importantly, this bill will allow Native American entrepreneurs to better utilize the current SBDC network.

The Native American population represents a disadvantaged and underserved segment of our nation. One-third of Native Americans currently live below the nation's poverty level and suffer from the highest rate in health disparities. Despite these difficulties, Native American small businesses grew at a rate of 84 percent over the last five years. But with technical assistance specifically geared toward meeting the unique needs of this population, we can create a more prosperous economic community in the Native American population, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives in the previous Congress with strong bipartisan support but failed to reach the Senate floor last year. I remain in support of this legislation and committed to seeing its complete passage.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1166.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the

Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FLAKE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1463, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 58, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1166, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SMALLPOX EMERGENCY PERSONNEL PROTECTION ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 1463.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1463, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 184, nays 206, not voting 44, as follows:

[Roll No. 92]

YEAS—184

Aderholt	Brown (SC)	DeLay
Akin	Brown-Waite,	Diaz-Balart, L.
Bachus	Ginny	Diaz-Balart, M.
Ballenger	Burgess	Doolittle
Barrett (SC)	Burns	Dreier
Bartlett (MD)	Burton (IN)	Dunn
Barton (TX)	Calvert	Emerson
Bass	Cannon	Feeney
Beauprez	Cantor	Ferguson
Biggert	Carter	Forbes
Billirakis	Chabot	Fossella
Bishop (UT)	Chocola	Franks (AZ)
Blackburn	Coble	Frelinghuysen
Blunt	Cole	Garrett (NJ)
Boehner	Cox	Gerlach
Bonilla	Crane	Gibbons
Bonner	Crenshaw	Gilchrest
Bono	Cubin	Gingrey
Boozman	Culberson	Goode
Bradley (NH)	Davis, Jo Ann	Goodlatte
Brady (TX)	Deal (GA)	Goss